

Agricultural Product Standards (APS) System

User's Manual

Version 4.2

August 29, 2005

REVISION HISTORY

Previous Change History

Table A – Previous Change History

VERSION	DATE	AUTHOR	COMMENT
4.0	8/29/05	Ann Lang	Final version.
4.1	2/24/06	Ann Lang	Change screenshots for CAF
4.2	6/28/06	Ann Lang	Change screenshots for ACC and CAF enhancements.

Document Sign-off

Table B – Document Sign-off

DATE	NAME	TITLE
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Error! Bookmark not defined.

I. Introduction

The Agricultural Product Standards (APS) system was developed in 2005 as part of the USDA's Grain Inspection, Packers and Stockyards Administration (GIPSA) Application Modernization (GAM) suite of programs. With this system, authorized users fulfill GIPSA's regulatory and oversight responsibilities for agricultural product quality.

APS allows the user to view, create, and maintain information about agricultural products in a hierarchical form, and to maintain the parameters for the USDA grade standards of a regulated product. Agricultural Commodity Classes (ACC) and Analytical Factors define a product and how it can be tested, measured or graded. Together, the ACC and Analytical Factors form the Commodity Analytical Factor (CAF), which in turn defines the Factor Grade Limit. APS maintains data for existing products and grades, and also allows new products and grades to be defined as needed.

The current release of APS interoperates with recently developed applications, such as eAuthorization (GAS), and conforms to new GIPSA technical architecture and scripting standards. This user's manual replaces the version dated May 5, 2005.

USDA GIPSA Internal Applications Home Page

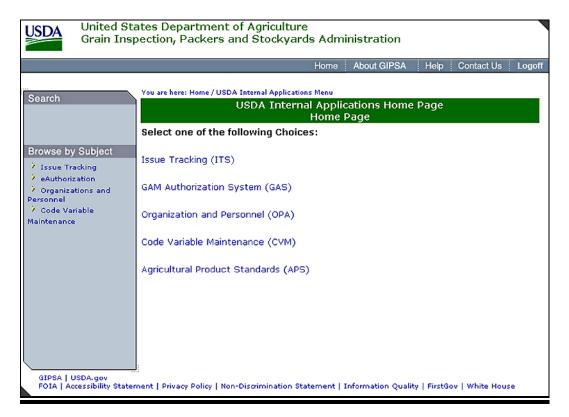


Figure 1 – the USDA GIPSA Internal Applications home page

This is the USDA's interim Internal Applications home page (Fig. 1). From this page you can enter the application by selecting <u>Agricultural Product Standards (APS)</u>.

Each page within a GIPSA Application Modernization (GAM) application has three navigation areas: a menu of internal links, a menu of external links, and general navigation buttons. The rest of the screen will change according to the active application. Please note that these links are under development and subject to change.

General Navigation

The buttons at the top right direct you to system resources.

LINK (TBD)	REDIRECTS USER TO
Home	directs user to the home page for the web application's group or category (P&SP, FGIS, or Internal / Employee)
Help	(not yet developed)
Contact Us	directs email to the USDA
About GIPSA	the public GIPSA information page
Logoff	logs user out of eAuthentication

Internal Navigation

The internal links are located in the grey **Search / Browse by Subject** area on the left side of the page. At the GAM home page level, it links to other GAM applications.

LINK	REDIRECTS USER TO
Organizations and Personnel	the Organizations and Personnel main page
Issue Tracking	the Issue Tracking main page
eAuthorization	the GAM Authorization System (GAS) main page
Code Variable Maintenance	the Code Variable maintenance subsystem

Once you enter an application (such as APS or GAS), the **Search / Browse by Subject** area will change to reflect that application's menu options.

External Navigation

The external links are accessed from the menu bar at the bottom of the screen.

LINK	REDIRECTS USER TO
GIPSA	the Grain Inspection, Packers & Stockyards Administration organizational home page
USDA	the United States Department of Agriculture home page
FOIA	the USDA Freedom of Information Act page
Accessibility Statement	the USDA Accessibility Statement page
Privacy Policy Non-Discrimination	the USDA Privacy Policy page
Statement	the USDA Non-Discrimination Statement page
Information Quality	the USDA Quality of Information Guidelines page
FirstGov	the U.S. Government's Web Portal home page
White House	the White House home page

APS Menu Tree and Process Flow Charts

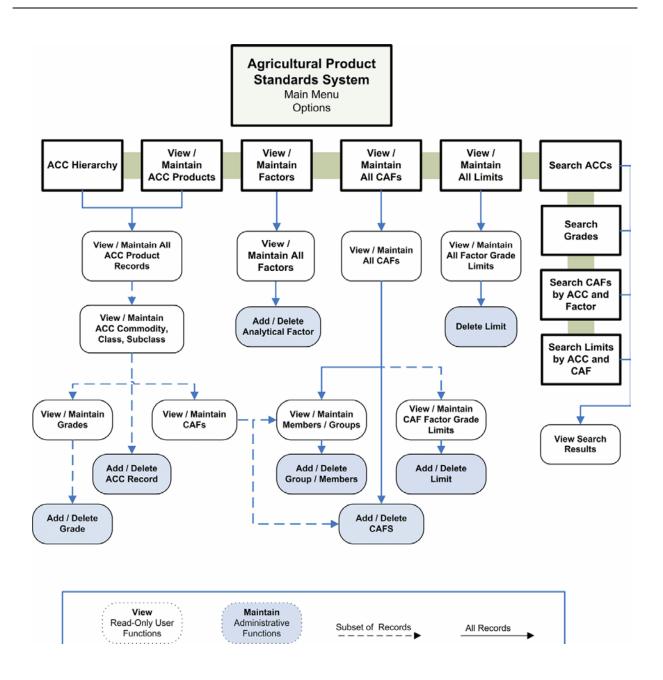


Figure 2 - APS Navigation Map

APS Application Navigation

Navigating List Pages

Several of the list pages in APS display data in tables, such as the **List Agricultural Commodity Class Records** page, or as a table of search results. All tables have the same navigation controls. Each table also displays the total number of records at the bottom of the page, next to the row and page navigation tools.

- To change the number of rows displayed on the page, type the desired value (such as 20 or 100) in the field next to "Rows:" and press enter. Tables will display 10 rows per page unless otherwise specified. You can display between one and all records on the page.
- To *view the next page or previous page of records*, click the forward lack or backward lack arrows.
- To jump to a different page of records, type the desired page number in the field next to "Page:" and click "Go."
- To sort records, click the column header (such as name or program type) to sort in ascending or descending order by that field. Once sorted, an upward or downward pointing triangle (▲ or ▼) appears beside the column name to indicate by which column and in which direction the table is sorted.
- To *locate a specific record*, use the column sort feature and navigate by page of table records, or return to the main menu and choose a search option.

Navigating the Application

The text that starts with **You are here:** immediately above the green title bar on the page is referred to as the breadcrumbs area.

As you navigate through GAM applications from one page to another, this area will change to reflect your place in the menu tree. For example, if you start at the APS Menu page, then select <u>Maintain ACC Products</u>, the breadcrumbs area will read:

You are here: APS Menu / Agricultural Commodity Class List

The breadcrumbs area also provides active navigation links. In the example above, you can click APS Menu in the breadcrumbs area to return to the APS home page.

Once you enter the application, the <u>Search</u> / <u>Browse by Subject</u> navigation panel also allows quick navigation to any command within APS.

II. APS Functions

Overview

All agricultural products overseen by GIPSA, from soybeans to chicken, are given a USDA Grade that assesses their relative quality by objective standards. The Agricultural Product Standards (APS) System application sets and maintains data for those grading standards. A USDA Grade consists of a product description, a description of the analytical factor(s) applied to the product, the way the factor is measured (such as by weight or ratio), and the limits within which those measurements must fall for a product to achieve a particular USDA Grade.

APS also maintains a hierarchical list of all regulated products, which shows how a product is classified, as well as all types and subtypes of that product. Accordingly, there are five master data tables in APS: products, analytical factors, measurements, grade parameters, and a hierarchy chart.

Types of Data Record in APS

An **Agricultural Commodity Class (ACC)** describes the agricultural product. An item can be classified by up to four levels of description, or *types*:

Product is the general category of product, such as Grain, Meat, or Processed Commodity. This is the top level of the organizational hierarchy, and the level that makes up the master ACC records table.

Commodity is the general name of the product, such as Barley, Milled Rice, or Soybean. (A commodity is not an agricultural commodity class.)

Class is the specific type of product, such as Mixed Soybeans or Duram Wheat.

Subclass further defines the specific type of product, such as Hard Amber Duram Wheat or Northern Spring Wheat.

Setting an ACC Type defines where an item will fall in the ACC Hierarchy (Fig. 3). The lowest levels of the hierarchy will include data on CAFs and Grades.

Note: In this manual, the terms "product" and "agricultural product" are also used in the broader sense to mean all foodstuffs regulated by GIPSA, whether or not the ACC in question has been typed as a *Product*, a *Subclass*, etc.

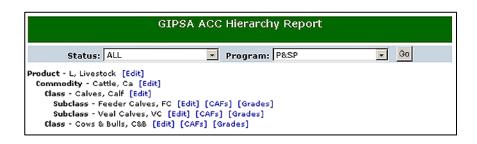


Figure 3 – Sample ACC Hierarchy Report

An **Analytical Factor** describes a quality for which the product is tested, measured, or otherwise assessed (such as color, the presence of contamination, or total seed count).

A **Commodity Analytical Factor** brings ACCs and analytical factors together to define the limits, groupings, and units of measure for each product. A CAF defines each of the possible standards of quality for a given product.

Some (but not all) CAFs are further used define a **Factor Grade Limit** or **Limit**, which set the standards for each USDA Grade for a given ACC.

User Classes in APS

There are two user classes within APS: read-only and administrative. Depending on your user class, when you log into APS you will see one of two versions of the APS home page: the APS Read-Only menu or the APS Administrator menu. Although the main menu links are the same for both user classes,

Read-Only users will see "View" and "List" action links to the data tables.

Administrative users will see "Maintain" and "Edit" action links to the data tables, as well as "Add New Record" and "Delete Record." See section B for more information.

Read-only user functions are explained in sections A and C. Administrative functions are explained in section B. However, all users should read sections A and C to understand how data is handled within APS.

User classes and permissions are defined by a GAS administrator within the eAuthorization program. For more information on configuring roles, see section D.

A. Viewing APS Records

A. 1 — APS Main Menu

Section A covers read-only user functions, but it should be read by administrative users as well for an understanding of terms, data, and tables used in later sections.

From the APS Main Menu (Fig. 4) a user can:

view separate data tables for all ACC products, all analytical factors, all CAFs, or all factor grade limits,

view ACCs, factors, CAFs, and limits linked to their respective agricultural products within the ACC Hierarchy Report,

search for specific ACC, CAF, grade, or factor records.

The first five menu options are explained in the section below. Search functions are explained in section C.

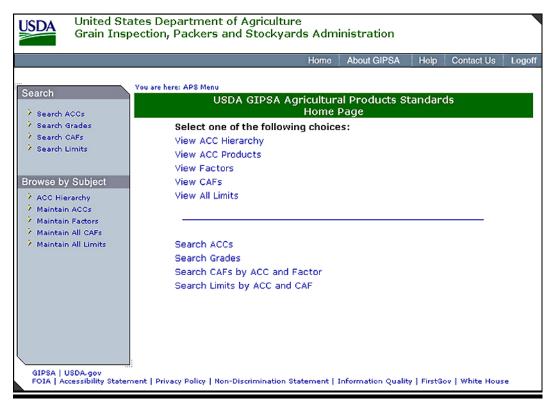


Figure 4 - APS Main Menu - Read-Only Users

A. 2. 1 — View ACC Records

From the APS Main Menu, select View ACC Products to enter the List Agricultural Commodity Class Records page (Fig. 5). This data table displays the highest level record, the **Product Type**, under which all lower level product descriptions are stored.

The data columns are:

Program, which indicates if the product is regulated by FGIS or P&SP.

Abbrev Name, the code used to refer to the product in CAF, AF, and Grade records.

Name, the expanded description of the product.

Type, or ACC Type. Because this is a master data table, it displays only records classified as Products (the top level of the hierarchy).

Status, which indicates if a product is Active, Planned, or Inactive.

From this page you can select **View** to view product data, commodity data, class data, and subclass data within each record, as well as CAFs and limits defined for each (if any.)

To find the record for a specific lower-level product, return to the home page and select **View ACC Hierarchy** (section A. 7), or choose a search option from the main menu.

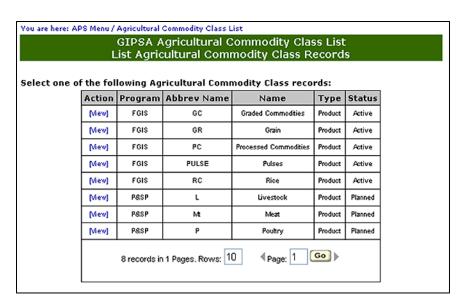


Figure 5 – List Agricultural Commodity Class Records Top-level data records.

A. 2. 2 — View ACC Records Data

The **View** option opens the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page (Fig. 6). The top half of the record will show the record's program affiliation (FGIS or P&SP), abbreviation and name, commodity lifecycle status (Active, Inactive or Planned), and definition, plus the most recent administrative update. Because these are top-level records in the hierarchy, "Type" will be set to *Product*, "Lowest Level" will be set to *No*, and "Parent" will be set to *N/A*.

Note: Although **View** will open a screen titled "Maintain (Data Record)," read-only users will not be able to maintain the data.

A. 2. 3 — View ACC Commodity Records

The bottom of the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page displays a table of all second-level, or **Commodity Type**, records associated with the product record. The data fields are the same as for the parent table.

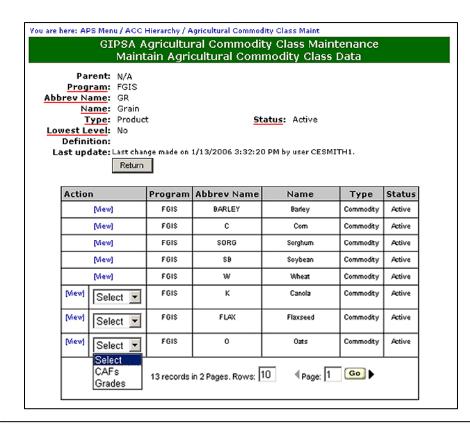


Figure 6 – Maintain
Agricultural Commodity
Class Data: View Product
Data and Commodity
Records
Top-level (product) record
data with table of associated
second-level (commodity)

If a commodity record (such as Oats in Fig. 6 above) does not have any further class or subclass records, it is the lowest level in the hierarchy. The <u>Action</u> column for these records will display both the **View** option and a droplist menu:

CAFs will display a table of all Commodity Analytical Factors assigned to that commodity. For more information, see section A. 5.

Grades will display a table of all USDA Grades that apply to that commodity. For more information, see section A. 3.

If a commodity record (such as Barley in Fig. 6 above) contains further class and/or subclass records, the <u>Action</u> column will display the **View** option only. CAF and Grade records will be linked to the lowest-level class and/or [and??] subclass records for that commodity, not to the commodity record itself.

A. 2. 4 — View ACC Commodity Records Data

From the commodity record table (bottom of Fig. 6), select **View** to open the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page for a specific commodity. The data fields are the same as for the parent record. Because these are second-level records, "Type" will be set to *Commodity* and "Parent" will be set to the parent product's abbreviation.

If "Lowest Level" is set to *Yes*, there are no further classes or subclasses for the commodity (Fig 7). Select **Return** to return to the previous screen.

If "Lowest Level" is set to *No*, the page will also display a table of all third-level, or **Class Type**, records for the commodity (Fig. 8).

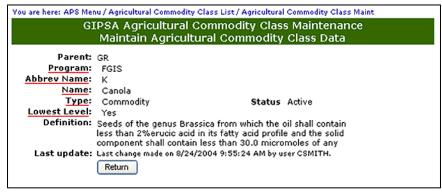


Figure 7 – Maintain
Agricultural Commodity
Class Data: View Commodity
Data
Second-level (commodity)
data record with no
associated third-level (class)
records.

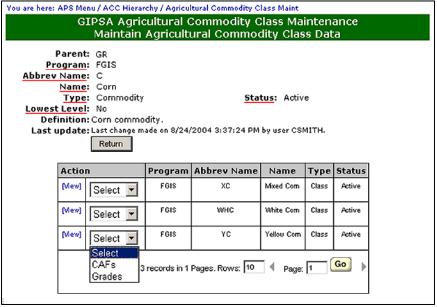


Figure 8 – Maintain
Agricultural Commodity
Class Data: View Commodity
Data and Class Records
Second-level (commodity)
data record displaying table
of associated third-level
(class) records.

A. 2. 5 — View ACC Class Records Data

From the class record table (bottom of Fig. 8), select **View** to open the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page for a specific class. The top half of the page displays the commodity record's data as in previous pages.

If "Lowest Level" is set to Yes, there are no further records displayed (Fig 9). Select **Return** to return to the previous screen.

If "Lowest Level" is set to *No*, the page will also display a table of all fourth-level, or **Subclass Type**, records for the class (Fig. 10).

Because these are the lowest-level records, the <u>Action</u> column will also display a droplist menu with links to the record's CAF and Grade data. **Note:** Grades and CAFs can be linked to both class and subclass records for the same commodity class.

A. 2. 6 — View ACC Subclass Records Data

From the subclass record table (bottom of Fig. 10), select **View** to open the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page for a specific subclass (Fig. 11). When finished, select **Return** to return to the previous table.

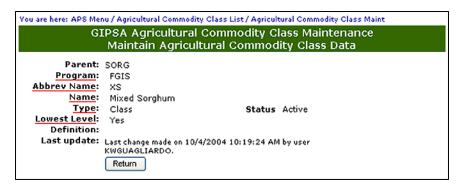


Figure 9 – Maintain
Agricultural Commodity
Class Data: View Class Data
Third-level (class) data
record with no associated
fourth-level (subclass)
records.

	GIPSA	Agricultu		lity Class Mainten nmodity Class Dat		
Probbrev Lowest Defi		ng Barley :	<u>St</u> n 9/29/2004 12:5:	<u>atus</u> : Active 2:37 PM by user		
	Retur	'n				
Actio		Program	Abbrev Name	Name	Туре	Status
Actio [View]			Abbrev Name	Name Six-rowed Blue Malting Barley	Type Subclass	Status Active
	n	Program				100000000000000000000000000000000000000
[View]	Select 🔽	Program FGIS	SRBM	Six-rowed Blue Malting Barley	Subclass	Active

Figure 10 – Maintain
Agricultural Commodity
Class Data: View Class Data
and Subclass Records
Third-level (class) data
record displaying table of
associated fourth-level
(subclass) records.

GI	u/ACC Hierarchy/Agricultural Commodity PSA Agricultural Commodity Maintain Agricultural Commo	Class Maintenance	
Parent:	MB		
Program:	FGIS		
Abbrev Name:	SRBM		
Name:	Six-rowed Blue Malting Barley		
Type:	Subclass	Status: Active	
Lowest Level:	Yes		
Definition:			
	Last change made on 10/4/2004 10:14:27 KWGUAGLIARDO.	AM by user	
	Return		

Figure 11 – Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data: View Subclass Data Fourth-level (subclass) record.

A. 3. 1 — View ACC Grade Records

The lowest level product records will include a pulldown link to the product's **Grade** records. Grade records list which USDA Grades (if any) can apply to that ACC, and the grade's activity status.

From the droplist in the <u>Action</u> column, select **Grades** to open the **List Grade Records** page (Fig. 12). Alternately, from the APS Main Menu, select **View ACC Hierarchy**, then select the **Grades** link next to the desired product record.

Note: *Grade* tables are linked to ACC product records (including commodities, classes, and subclasses). *Factor Grade Limit* tables are linked to CAF records (see section A. 6).

A. 3. 2 — View ACC Grade Data

From the Grade Records table, select **View** to open the **Maintain Grade Data** page (Fig. 13). When finished, select **Return** to return to the Grade Records table, or use the breadcrumbs to return to a previous page.

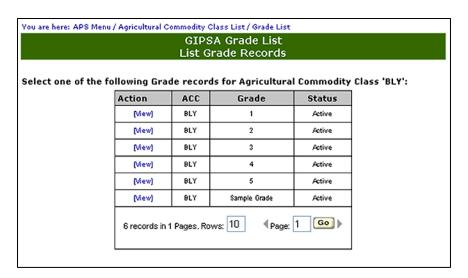


Figure 12 – List Grade Records

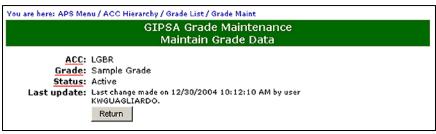


Figure 13 – Maintain Grade Data: View Data

A. 4. 1 — View Analytical Factor Records

From the APS Main Menu, select **View Analytical Factors** to open the **List Analytical Factor Records** page (Fig. 14). This table lists all of the possible factors used to judge or quantify agricultural products within the APS system, including the factor's name, abbreviation, and status.

To find a specific factor, use the page navigation controls, or return to the home page and choose a search option. To find which factors are associated with a given agricultural product, return to the main menu and select **View CAFs** (section A. 5), select **View ACC Hierarchy** (section A. 7), or select a search option (section C).

A. 4. 2 — View Analytical Factor Records Data

To view a detailed definition for a factor, select **View** from the <u>Action</u> column to open the **Maintain Analytical Factor Data** page (Fig. 15).

one of the follow	ing Analytical Fa	ctor records:	
Acti	n Abbrev Name	Name	Status
Mex) AFLA	aflatoxin	Active
[Viev) ANFL	animal filth	Active
[Viev) BADW	badly weathered	Active
(Viev) BBLY	black barley	Active
Men) 8C	broken com	Active
(Viev) BCFM	broken com and foreign material	Active
Mes) 80	badly damaged	Active
[Viet	ј вк	broken kemels	Active
[Viet) BLAL	blue aleurone	Active

A. View Functions

Figure 14 – List Analytical Factor Records

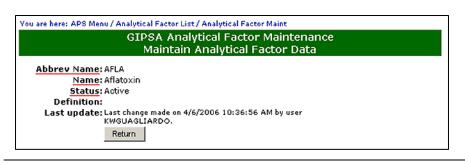


Figure 15 – Maintain Analytical Factor Data: View Data

A. 5. 1 — Commodity Analytical Factor Records: Overview

Because only a few factors are used to analyze a given product (for example, poultry is not checked for broken kernels), APS maintains a table that ties each analytical factor to its product. ACCs and Analytical Factors are combined with additional data to form the Commodity Analytical Factor (CAF) records. Some CAFs are also used to define USDA Grades.

CAFs are attached to the **lowest level records** in a product hierarchy or table. For example, sunflower seeds (SF) and wheat (W) are both second-level commodities. Because SF has no class or subclasses records, it is linked to a CAF. Because W has class and subclass records, W does not have a defined CAF, but its child records do. Both class and subclass records can have CAFs.

A. 5. 2 — View Commodity Analytical Factor Records

From the APS Main Menu, select **View CAFs** to open the **List Commodity Analytical Factor Records** page (Fig. 16). The data columns are:

ACC, the Agricultural Commodity Class abbreviation.

Factor, the Analytical Factor.

Status, which indicates if a CAF is Active, Inactive, or Planned.

Active Date, which indicates when a CAF was put into operation.

Group Factor, which indicates if a CAF is grouped with other CAFs.

Unit of Measure Default, which indicates how the factor is quantified (for example, by percentages, pounds, or item count).

Certificates Display Order, which indicates the order in which factors are displayed on certificates generated by the Certificates system and Inspection Data Warehouse (IDW) applications.

The droplist in the <u>Action</u> column allows the user to view the CAF record's *Limits* and *Members/Groups*. For more information on Group Factors, *Members*, and *Limits*, see sections A. 5. 5 and A. 6.

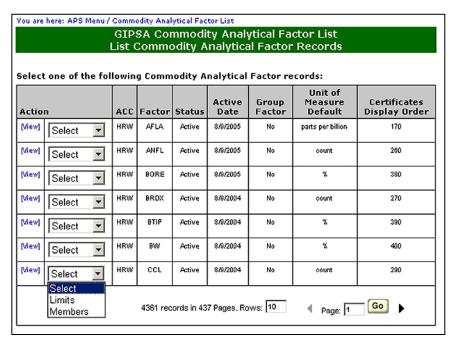


Figure 16 – List Commodity
Analytical Factor Records
The Action column displays
links to Limits and Members
if Group Factor = "No," or to
Limits and Groups if Group
Factor = "Yes."

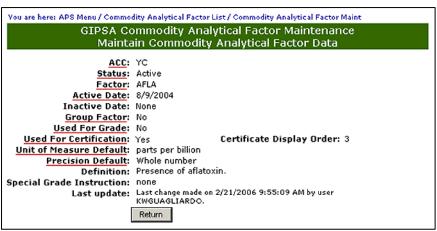


Figure 17 – View Commodity Analytical Factor Data

A. 5. 3 — View Commodity Analytical Factor Records Data

Select **View** to enter the **Maintain Commodity Analytical Factor Data** page (Fig. 17). In addition to the information from the master table, this page displays the Inactive date (if any), the precision default for the factor's unit of measurement, special grade instructions (if any), and a definition. It also indicates whether the CAF is used to define a USDA grade for a product, whether it is used for certification, and the certificate display order.

A. 5. 4 — View Grade Limits for a Commodity Analytical Factor

From the droplist in Fig. 14, select **Limits** to open the **List Factor Grade Limit Records** for a given CAF. For more information on factor grade limits, see section A. 6.

A. 5. 5 — Commodity Analytical Factor Groups: Overview

CAF records can be assigned to groups. A CAF group is used to apply multiple analytical factors at the same time to a single product. For example, the CAF records for broken kernels and frost-damaged kernels in yellow corn (YC/BK and YC/FDK) could be assigned to the Group CAF YC/DLQ (yellow corn of distinctly low quality).

CAFs which are assigned to a group are referred to as **Member CAFs**. The CAF record which defines the group itself the **Group CAF**. The Group CAF record will have the **Group Factor** field set to *Yes*. Member CAFs, and all CAFs without a group assignment, will always have a Group Factor of *No*.

In the example above, YC/DLQ would be the Group CAF. YC/BK and YC/FDK would be the Member CAFs. YC/DLQ would display a "Group Factor" of Yes on the master CAF records table.

Note: The <u>Action</u> column link will change depending on the Group Factor. If "Group Factor" is *Yes*, the links will be **Limits** and **Groups**. If "Group Factor" is *No*, the links will be **Limits** and **Members**.

A. 5. 6 — View Commodity Analytical Factor Group Data

From the droplist of the <u>Action</u> column in Fig. 14, select **Members/Groups** to view the **List CAF Group Assignment Records** page for a given CAF (Fig. 18). In this table, *Group* is the Group Factor CAF and *Member* is the member CAF.

To view the data for a specific record, click **View** to enter the **Maintain CAF Group Assignment Data** for a given CAF group (Fig. 19).

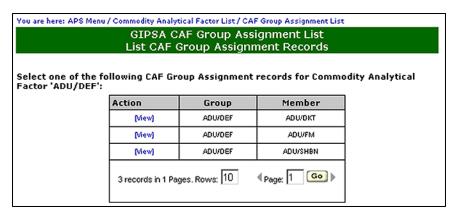


Figure 18 – List CAF Group
Assignment Records
Member CAFs that make up
the "Amber Duram Wheat –
Defects" CAF Group,
ADU/DEF.

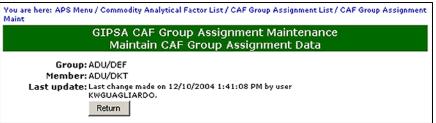


Figure 19 – Maintain CAF Group Assignment Data: Read-Only

A. 6. 1 — View Factor Grade Limits

Where Grade records show the possible USDA Grade designations for an ACC, Factor Grade Limit records show the criteria that go into judging a product for a grade.

From the APS Main Menu, select **View All Limits** to open the **List Factor Grade Limit Records** page (Fig. 20). This table displays all factor grade limits currently defined in APS. The data columns are:

CAF, which notes the product and analytical factor (ACC / AF) being graded.

Grade, the alphanumeric designation of the USDA Grade being defined.

Status, which indicates if a Factor Grade Limit is Active, Inactive, or Planned.

Active Date, which indicates when a CAF was put into operation.

Unit of Measure, which indicates how the factor is quantified (such as in pounds).

Precision, which indicates the degree of magnitude to which the factor is measured.

Value Grade Limit and Min/Max, which indicate what the highest and/or lowest acceptable value of measure valid for that grade will be (for example, a minimum of one tenth of a percent).

You can also view grade limit data by selecting **Limits** from the <u>Action</u> column in the Commodity Analytical Factor (CAF) Records table.

A. 6. 2 — View Factor Grade Limit Data

From the Factor Limit Records page, select **View** next to the desired limit to open the **View Factor Grade Limit Data** page (Fig. 21). In addition to the information on the master record page, the data page also includes the breakpoint, starting value, and material error limit allowed for measurements of the CAF that defines that grade.

GIPSA Factor Grade Limit List List Factor Grade Limit Records elect one of the following Factor Grade Limit records:									
Action	CAF	Grade	Status	Active Date	Unit of Measure	Precision	Grade Limit Value	Min/Max	
[View]	WINDOA	2	Active	8/9/2004	lb/bu	Tenths (.1)	58.0	min	
[View]	ADU/TW/	3	Active	8/9/2004	lb/bu	Tenths (.1)	56.0	min	
[View]	ADU/TW/	4	Active	8/9/2004	lb/bu	Tenths (.1)	54.0	min	
[View]	ADU/TW	5	Active	8/9/2004	lb/bu	Tenths (.1)	51.0	min	
[View]	ADU/TW/	Sample	Active	8/9/2004	lb/bu	Tenths (.1)	50.9	max	
[View]	ADU/TW/	1	Active	8/9/2004	lb/bu	Tenths (.1)	60.0	min	
[View]	ADU/HT	1	Active	8/9/2004	1.	Tenths (.1)	0.2	max	
[Mew]	ADU/HT	2	Active	8/9/2004	%	Tenths (.1)	0.2	max	
[Mew]	ADU/HT	3	Active	8/9/2004	%.	Tenths (.1)	0.6	max	

Figure 20 – List Factor Grade Limit Records

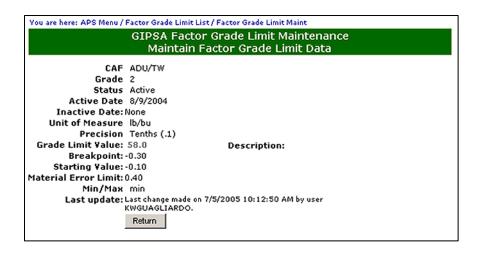


Figure 21 – View Factor Grade Limit Data

A. 7 — View ACC Hierarchy

The **ACC Hierarchy** is a text-based table of all products in APS, which visually tracks the relationship between parent and child products. From this page, the user can also move directly to the CAFs, Grades, or record data for a specific product or type of product, rather than searching through a master table of all ACCs and CAFs.

Each of the active menu links (**Grades**, **CAFs**, and **View**) function as described in the previous sections of this manual. However, instead of generating a master table that includes all grade or CAF records within APS, they pull up only the records associated with the given product, commodity, class, or subclass.

From the APS Main menu, choose **View ACC Hierarchy** to open the **GIPSA ACC Hierarchy Report** page (Fig. 22). From this page, the user can:

View all categories of product tracked by the USDA (such as Grains and Meat).

View all child records associated with a parent record (such as Barley and Beef).

Filter the product categories by Active, Inactive, or Planned status.

Filter the product categories by FGIS or P&SP program status.

View data, CAFs, and grades attached to a given commodity, class, or subclass.

To filter the hierarchy by a product's status in the commodity lifecycle, select **Active, Inactive**, or **Planned** from the droplist at the top left.

To filter the hierarchy by a product's GIPSA program affiliation, select **FGIS**, **P&SP**, or **All** from the droplist at the top right.

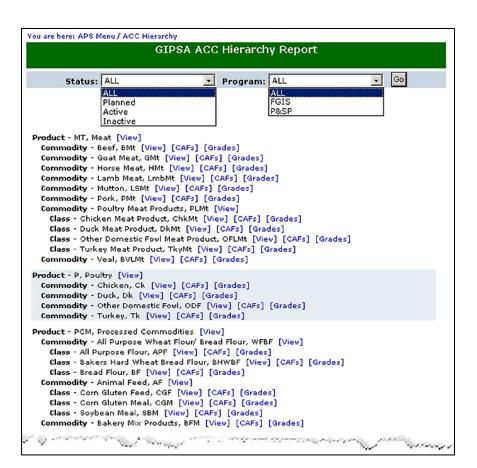


Figure 22 - ACC Hierarchy Report

B. Maintaining APS Records

B. 1 - APS Main Menu: Administrative Menu

This section covers add, update, and delete functions for administrative users (Fig. 23).

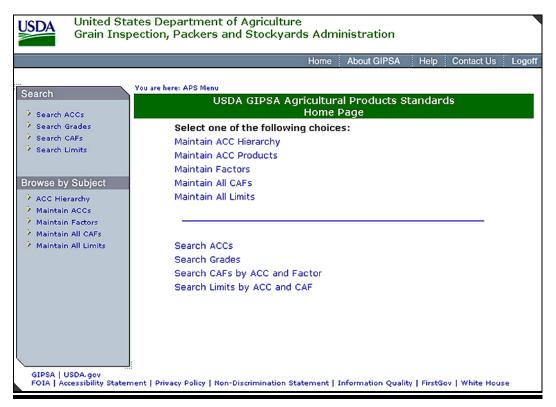


Figure 23 - APS Main Menu - Administrative Users

B. 2. 1 — Maintain ACC Product Records

From the APS Main Menu, select **Maintain ACC Products** to enter the **List Agricultural Commodity Class Records** page (Fig. 24). This data table displays the highest level record, the **Product Type**, under which all lower-level product descriptions are stored. From this page you can:

View and edit the program, name, abbreviation, definition, and status of the ACC product.

View and edit any child records associated with the product record, and their CAFs and grade records.

Add new product records.

To find or edit a specific lower-level record, select **Edit** to page through the parent and child tables, return to the home page and select **View ACC Hierarchy**, or choose a search option from the main menu.

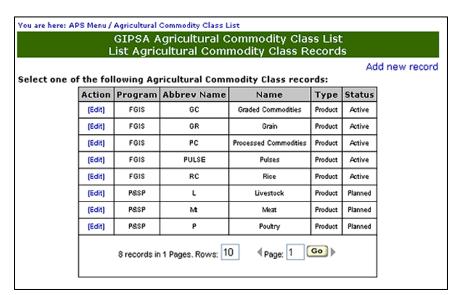


Figure 24 – List Agricultural Commodity Class Records: Administrative Users

You are here: APS Menu / ACC Hierarchy / Agricultural Commodity Class Maint									
GIPSA Agricultural Commodity Class Maintenance Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data									
Parent: N/A Program pasp v Abbrev Name L Name Livestock Type Product Status Planned v Lowest Level No Definition: Livestock Livestock v Last update: Last change made on 1/5/2005 4:43:03 PM by user JAVANDERWIELEN.									
	Action	Program	Abbrev Name	Name	Туре	Add ne	w record		
	(Edit)	P&SP	Ca	Cattle	Commodity	Planned			
	[Edit]	P&SP	н	Hogs	Commodity	Planned			
	[Edit]	P&SP	SH&G	Sheep & Goats	Commodity	Planned			
	[Edit] Select ▼	P&SP	нем	Horses & Mules	Commodity	Planned			
	Select CAFs Grades	4 records in	1 Pages. Rows: 10) ∮Page:	1 Go	>			

Figure 25 – Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data

Top-level (product) record data with table of associated child (commodity) records, plus link to add new child records.

B. 2. 2 — Maintain ACC Record Data

Select **Edit** next to the desired record to open the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page for that record (Fig. 25). To edit the product record data, enter the correct information and select **Save Changes**.

To edit the data for any associated commodity, class, or subclass record, continue to select **Edit** in the <u>Action</u> column of child table until the correct record is reached.

You can also edit the commodity analytical factor (CAF) data and grade assignments for the lowest level associated record (if any). For more information on editing CAFs and grade records, see sections B. 5 and B. 3.

B. 2. 3 — Add New ACC Product Record

To create a master ACC product record, select **Add New Record** from the top right corner of the master ACC products table (Fig. 24). This opens the **Add New Agricultural Commodity Class** form (Fig. 26).

The default settings will create a top-tier record. "Parent" is set to *N/A* and "Type" is set to *Product*. If there will be commodity, class, and/or subclass records added to this product, "Lowest Level" should be set to *No*. If you select *Yes*, you will not be able to add any commodity, class, or subclass product types to this product record.

When data is entered, select **Insert New Record**, or select **Return** to cancel the action. Once a record is inserted it will display a read-only confirmation screen. Select **Return** to return to the product record table. From this point, any child records can be added.



Figure 26 – Add New Agricultural Commodity Class Record

B. 2. 4 — Add New Commodity, Class, or Subclass Record

Once a parent ACC record has been created, you can create commodity, class, and subclass records for that product type. To create a child record, select **Edit** next to the parent record. The **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page (Fig. 25) will display the data fields for the parent record, a table of associated child records (if any), and an action link for record addition.

Select **Add New Record** to open the **Add New Agricultural Commodity Class** form (Fig. 27). The "Parent" and "Program" fields will default to the parent record settings. If you are creating a second-tier record, "Type" will default to *Commodity*.

Select Yes for "Lowest Level" if no further subrecords exist, or No to continue adding class and subclass records. "Type" will default to Class or Subclass respectively.

B. 2. 5 — Delete ACC Record

An ACC record cannot be deleted if it is at the parent level with attached child records (commodities, classes, or subclasses). All sub-records must be deleted before the parent.

If a record has no child records, select **Edit** to open the **Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data** page (Fig. 27). The **Delete Record** button will appear at the bottom of the screen. After deletion, the application will return you to the parent table.

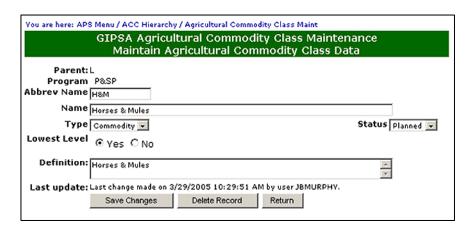


Figure 27 – Maintain Agricultural Commodity Class Data: Delete Record

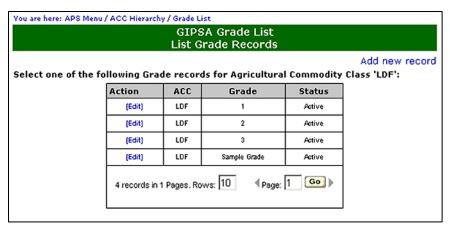


Figure 28 – List Grade Records: Administrative View

B. 3. 1 — Maintain ACC Grade Records

The lowest level record will include a link to the product's **Grade** records. From the droplist in the <u>Action</u> column, select **Grades** to open the **List Grade Records** page (Fig. 28). Alternately, from the APS Main Menu, select **Maintain ACC Hierarchy**, then select **Grades** next to the desired product record.

Select **Edit** to open the **Maintain Grade Data** page for an individual grade (Fig. 29). You can edit the grade's activity status or change the grade designation to any value in the APS system. When finished, select **Return** to return to the Grade Records table.

B. 3. 2 — Add ACC Grade Data Record

A Grade must be assigned to an ACC in this table before it will appear as an option in the Factor Grade Limit tables (section B. 6). Select **Add New Record** to open the **Add New Grade Data** page (Fig. 30). You can assign any grade currently defined in the APS system. Select **Insert New Record** and then **Return** to return to the Grade Records table.

B. 3. 3 — Delete ACC Grade Data Record

If a grade has no associated Factor Limit Records, the **Delete Record** option will appear on the Maintain Grade Data form. Otherwise, all Factor Limit records that use that Grade must be deleted before removing a Grade designation from an ACC record.

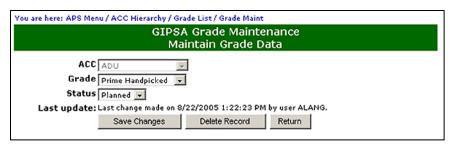


Figure 29 – Maintain Grade Data

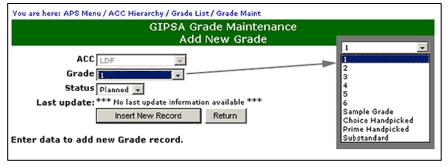


Figure 30 – Add New Grade Record

B. 4. 1 — Maintain Analytical Factor Data

From the APS Main Menu, select **Maintain All Factors** to open the **List Analytical Factor Records** page (Fig. 31). From this page you can add or delete an analytical factor record, or edit the abbreviation, name, status, or definition.

Select **Edit** next to the desired record to open the **Maintain Analytical Factor Records** page (Fig. 32). Enter the correct information and select **Save Changes**.

B. 4. 2 — Add New Analytical Factor Record

From the top right corner, select **Add New Record** to open the **Add New Analytical Factor Record** page (Fig. 33). When data is entered, select **Insert New Record**, or select **Return** to cancel the action.

B. 4. 3 — Delete Analytical Factor Record

Analytical Factor records cannot be deleted if they are being used in a CAF record. To remove an Analytical Factor from the APS database, all associated CAFs should first be deleted (section B. 5. 4). At that point an option to **Delete Record** will appear on the **Maintain Analytical Factor Data** page , and the record can be removed.

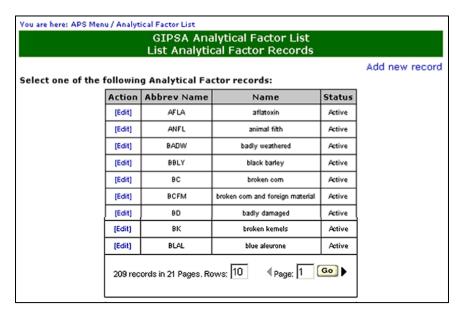


Figure 31 – List Analytical Factor Records: Administrative View

You are here: APS	Menu / Analytical Factor List / Analytical Factor Maint	
	GIPSA Analytical Factor Maintenance Maintain Analytical Factor Data	
Abbrev Name:	AMBS	
<u>Name</u> :	Ragweed (Ambrosia) Seeds	
<u>Status</u> :	Active	
Definition:		×
Last update:	Last change made on 4/6/2006 10:37:07 AM by user KWGUAGLIARDO. Save Changes Delete Record Return	

Figure 32 – Maintain Analytical Factor Data

You are here: APS	Menu/Analytical Factor List/Analytical Factor Maint GIPSA Analytical Factor Maintenance Add New Analytical Factor			
Add New Analytical Factor				
Abbrev Name:				
Name:				
Status:	Planned 🔻			
Definition:	A Y			
Last update:	*** No last update information available ***			
	Insert New Record Return			
Enter data to a	add new Analytical Factor record.			

Figure 33 – Add New Analytical Factor

B. 5. 1 — Maintain Commodity Analytical Factor Records

A Commodity Analytical Factor record is a unique combination of an ACC, an analytical factor, the unit of measure, and the status. There can be more than one CAF record for a given ACC/AF (product / analytical factor) if the units of measure or status are different.

From the APS Main Menu, select **Maintain All CAFs** to enter the **List Commodity Analytical Factor Records** page (Fig. 34). This data table displays all CAF records currently defined in APS.

The droplist in the <u>Action</u> column allows the user to maintain the CAF record's <u>Limits</u> and <u>Members/Groups</u>. **Note:** If "Group Factor" is <u>Yes</u>, the links will be **Limits** and **Groups**. If "Group Factor" is <u>No</u>, the links will be **Limits** and **Members**. For more information see sections B. 5. 5 and B. 5. 6.

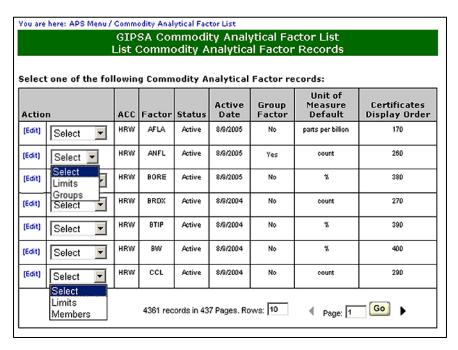


Figure 34 – List Commodity
Analytical Factor Records:
Administrative View
The Action column displays
links to Limits and Members
if Group Factor = "No," or to
Limits and Groups if Group
Factor = "Yes."

B. 5. 2 — Maintain Commodity Analytical Factor Data

Select **Edit** next to the desired record to open the **Maintain Community Analytical Factor Data** page (Fig. 35). Use this page to edit the status, select the associated factor, set the active date, indicate the group factor, and edit the unit of measure default. In addition to the data fields on the previous screen, you can maintain these fields:

Precision default. Sets the default for entering measurements (tenths, whole numbers, etc.).

Used for certification. Indicates if the CAF is being used by the Certificates system.

Certification number. Sets the display order for the CAF in the Certificates system.

Definition. Enter a text description of the CAF.

Special Grade Instructions. Enter the special grade instructions, if any.

When finished, select **Save Changes**.

If "Status" is changed from *Active* to *Inactive*, the "Inactive Date" field will update automatically. CAFs cannot be made inactive if they are being used to define active Factor Grade Limit records. The Limit records must first be deleted or inactivated.

The "Used for Grade" field will be automatically updated by the application if a Factor Grade Limit record is attached to the CAF. For more on factor grade limits, see section B. 5. 6.

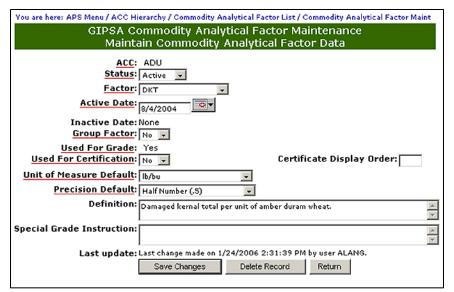


Figure 35 – Maintain Commodity Analytical Factor Data

"Delete Record" will only appear if there are no associated Factor Grade Limits or Group CAFs.

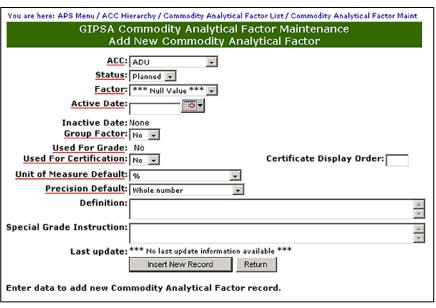


Figure 36 – Add New Commodity Analytical Factor

B. 5. 3 — Add New Commodity Analytical Factor

Select **Add New Record** to open the **Add New Commodity Analytical Factor** form (Fig. 36). Use the droplists to enter the ACC, factor, status, active date, unit of measure default, precision default, definition, certification status, certificate order number, and special grade instructions, and select **Insert Record.** Set "Group Factor" to *Yes* if creating a Group CAF (section B. 5. 5).

B. 5. 4 — Delete Commodity Analytical Factor Record

CAF records cannot be deleted if they are being used in a Factor Grade Limit record or if it is a Group Factor CAF with associated member records. To delete a CAF record, first delete all associated Limits (section B. 6) and/or Member CAFs (section B. 5. 5). Next, open the **Maintain Community Analytical Factor Data** page (Fig. 35) and select **Delete Record.**

B. 5. 5 — Maintain Commodity Analytical Factor Groups

The first step in creating a CAF group is to create or assign the **Group CAF** record. The user can:

create a new CAF record and set "Group Factor" to Yes, or edit an existing CAF record and set "Group Factor" to Yes.

Once the Group Factor is set, the user can assign existing CAF records to the group as Member CAFs. To group records, select Members from the droplist in the main CAF record table. This opens the List CAF Group Assignment Records page (Fig. 37).

Select Add New Record to open the Add New CAF Group Assignment form (Fig. 38) and choose the CAF to be added from the droplist. Only CAFs with the same ACC can be grouped together. When finished, hit Insert New Record.

To edit existing group member records, select Edit from the Action column to open the Maintain CAF Group Assignment Data page (Fig. 39). The user can change the member to a different CAF, or choose **Delete Record** to remove the CAF from the group.

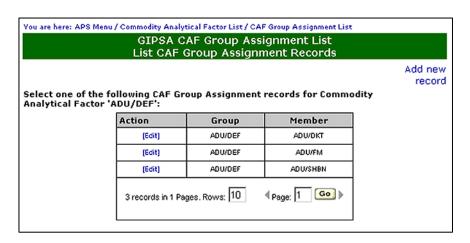


Figure 37 – List CAF Group **Assignment Records: Administrative View**



Delete Record

Figure 38 – Add New CAF Group Assignment



ADU/HTG

Figure 39 – Maintain **CAF Group Assignment Data**

Return

Group: ADU/DEF

Save Changes

Member: ADU/DKT

B. 5. 6 — Maintain CAF Factor Grade Limits

From the droplist in the <u>Action</u> column, select **Limits** to open the **List Factor Grade Limit Records** page for a CAF record (Fig. 40).

To view or edit factor grade limit data, select **Edit** next to the desired record to open the **Maintain Factor Grade Limit Data** page (Fig. 41). Certain fields, when edited, will affect data in other tables when edited:

If "Status" is changed to *Inactive*, APS adds the Inactive Date field to the record. An Inactive factor limit record can be deleted, or it can be reactivated at a later time by selecting **Edit** and then **Reactivate** (Fig. 42).

If the "Active Date" field is postdated, a Planned or Inactive status record is automatically changed to Active on that date.

The "Starting Value" and "Material Error Limit" fields are automatically completed by APS based on the breakpoint value defined for the record. Settings for units of measure, precision, grade limit values, descriptions, and minimum / maximum do not affect other records.

The "Grade" pulldown field will display all grades currently assigned to the ACC, as shown in the Grade Data records attached to the parent ACC record.

You can also access factor grade limit records by selecting **Maintain All Limits** from the APS Main Menu, as described in section B. 6, or from the **ACC Hierarchy**.

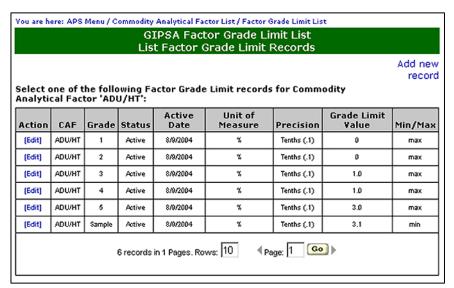


Figure 40 – List Factor Grade
Limit Records:
Administrative View
Factor Grade Limit records
for the Amber Duram Wheat
/ Heat Damaged CAF
(ADU/HT).

B. 5. 7 — Add or Delete Factor Grade Limits

Select **Add New Record** to open the **Add New Factor Grade Limit** form (Fig. 43). Enter data and select **Insert Record.** If you wish to assign a grade that is not shown in the pulldown field, you must return to the **List Grade Records** page and manually add the grade to the ACC record.

To delete a factor grade limit, select **Edit** and then **Delete Record**.

You are here: APS Menu / Factor Grade Limit List / Factor Grade Limit Maint				
GIPSA Factor Grade Limit Maintenance				
Maintain Factor Grade Limit Data				
CAF: BABYLIMA/M				
Grade: 3				
Status: Active				
Active Date: 4/1/1999				
Inactive Date: None				
Unit of Measure: %				
Precision: Tenths (.1)				
Grade Limit Value: 18.00 Description:				
Breakpoint:				
Starting Value: N/A				
Material Error Limit: N/A				
Min/Max: max 🔽				
Last update: Last change made on 5/11/2005 12:35:16 PM by user WEBATES.				
Save Changes Delete Record Return				

Figure 41 – Maintain Factor Grade Limit Data

Figure 42 – Maintain Factor Grade Limit Data: Reactivate Record

You are here: APS Menu / Commodity Analytical Factor List / Factor Grade Limit List / Factor Grade Limit Maint			
GIPSA Factor Grade Limit Maintenance			
Add New Factor Grade Limit			
CAE. HOW/ACIA			
CAF: HRW/AFLA Grade: *** Null Value ***			
Status: Planned 🔻			
Active Date: □□▼			
Inactive Date: None			
Unit of Measure: parts per billion			
Precision: Whole number			
Grade Limit Value: Description:			
Breakpoint:			
Starting Value: N/A			
Material Error Limit: N/A			
Min/Max: min 🔽			
Last update: *** No last update information available ***			
Insert New Record Return			
Enter data to add new Factor Grade Limit record.			

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Figure 43 – Add New Factor Grade Limit

B. 6. 1 — Maintain All Factor Grade Limits

From the APS Main Menu, select **Maintain All Limits** to open the main **List Factor Grade Limit Records** page (Fig. 44). This table displays all factor grade limits currently defined in APS, which in turn set the standards for USDA grading quality.

To view or edit factor grade limit data, select **Edit** next to the desired record to open the **Maintain Factor Grade Limit Data** page (Fig. 41). To delete a record, select **Delete Record.**

Factor grade limit records cannot be added from this screen. You must return to the CAF record and select the **Limits** option from the <u>Action</u> column (Fig. 40).

To find specific factor grade limit records, you can also navigate through the **ACC Hierarchy**, or return to the APS Main Menu and select a search option (section C).

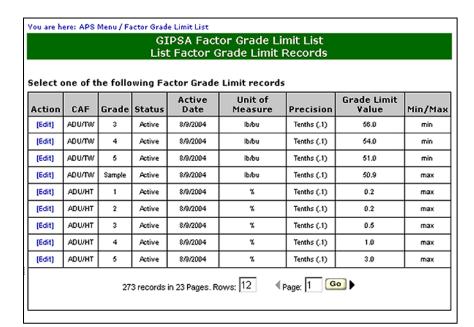


Figure 44 – List All Factor Grade Limit Records: Administrative View

B. 7 — Maintain Data from the ACC Hierarchy Page

From the APS Main Menu, select **Maintain ACC Hierarchy** to open the **GIPSA ACC Hierarchy Report** page (Fig. 44). From this page, the user can go move directly to the CAFs, Grades, or record data for a specific product, rather than searching through a master table of all ACCs and CAFs. Each of the active menu links (**Grades**, **CAFs**, and **Edit**) function as described in the previous sections of this manual. Grade and CAF records are attached to the lowest-level item in each product category.

To filter the hierarchy by a product's status in the commodity data lifecycle, select **Active**, **Inactive**, or **Planned** from the droplist at the top left.

To filter the hierarchy by a product's GIPSA program affiliation, select *FGIS*, *P&SP*, or *All* from the droplist at the top right.

If you delete a record from the ACC Hierarchy, you will be returned to the ACC hierarchy page.

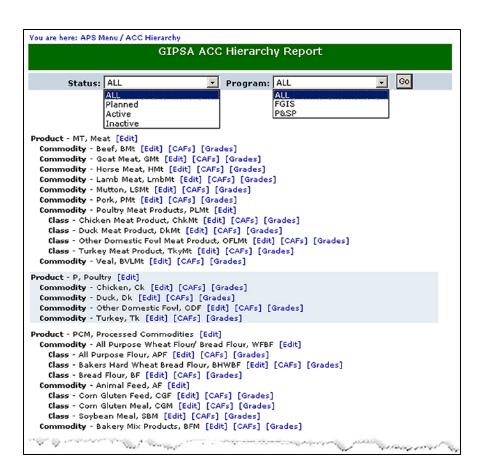


Figure 45 – GIPSA ACC Hierarchy Report: Administrative View

C. Searching APS Records

C. 1 — Introduction

Because the View and Maintain menu options pull up master data tables, a more efficient way to locate a particular record is by a targeted search. A user can search for ACCs, CAFs, factors, and grades. APS will only search records affiliated with the user's program (FGIS, P&SP, or both). Results can be generated in two formats:

as a web page.

as an Excel spreadsheet. If you choose this option, you can either open the spreadsheet directly within the browser or save it as a file.

Results are read-only for all user types.

The search fields will either have droplists or blank fields for data entry. To add a search value from a droplist, highlight the text with the mouse and click the **Select >>** button. The value will appear in the white box on the right side of the field. To choose multiple values, you can add them one at a time, or you can hold down the CTRL key while highlighting values, and click Select >> to add them all at once. To remove a value from your search criteria, highlight it with your mouse and click Remove.

Data fields that require operands will display a droplist of commands to the left of a blank field where you can type your search value(s).

Contains will find records that contain all or part of that word or phrase. Spaces can be used with this operand.

- will find records that exactly match your data.
- < will find records containing values less than your search criteria; for text data, this means starting with letters that are earlier in the alphabet than the one(s) you entered.
- > will find records containing values greater than your search criteria.
- <= will find records containing values less than or equal to your search criteria.
- >=will find records containing values greater than or equal to your search criteria.

Once your search criteria and desired output (excel or web) are entered, select Search Data. To change your results, you can select Another Search.

C. 2 — Search by Agricultural Commodity Class

To locate the records for a specific agricultural product, select **Search ACCs** from the main menu. The "ACC Product" pulldown will display the master commodity type (such as Grain or Meat). From this page you can also search by abbreviation, definition, name, level in the organizational hierarchy, program affiliation, type, or lifecycle status (Fig. 46).

Search results include the USDA program affiliation, ACC abbreviation and name, type, and status of the record. Select View to open the Agricultural Commodity Class Data page for a given record.

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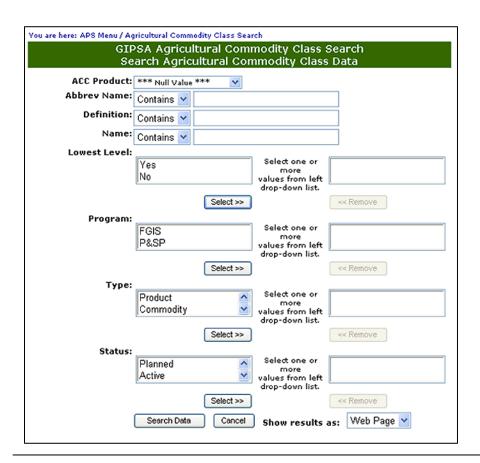


Figure 46 – Search Agricultural Commodity Class Data

C. 3 — Search by Grade

To view the ACCs associated with a given USDA grade, select **Search Grades** from the main menu (Fig. 47). Search criteria are USDA Grade (for example, 1-5, Prime Handpicked) and product lifecycle status (Active, Planned, Inactive).

Search results include the grade, ACC abbreviation, and status of each record. Select **View** to open the **Grade Data** page for a given record.

C. 4 — Search CAFs by ACC and Factor

To find a CAF record, select **Search CAFs by ACC and Factor** from the main menu (Fig. 48). This allows the user to quickly find all CAFs associated with a given ACC or factor, USDA program affiliation, type (product, commodity, class, subclass), group, or group factor.

For example, this search could be used to find all the characteristics used to grade barley (an ACC), or to find all products which are graded on the presence of aflatoxin (an Analytical Factor). It could also be used to find which CAFs are used to define a Grade.

Search results include the ACC abbreviation, factor abbreviation, CAF effective date, group factor, unit of measure, and precision, and note whether the factor is used for grade. Select **View** to open the **Commodity Analytical Factor Data** page for a given record.

C. 5 — Search Limits by ACC and CAF

To find the specific parameters of a given USDA Grade, select **Search Limits by ACC and CAF** from the main menu (Fig. 49). Records can be searched by ACC name or abbreviation, unit of measure, precision, program (FGIS or P&SP), type, status, CAF group, CAF status, and/or target effective date.

Search results include the CAF status, CAF, grade, limit value, unit of measure, min/max, breakpoint, and material error limit. Select **View** to open the **ACC Limits Data** page for a given record.

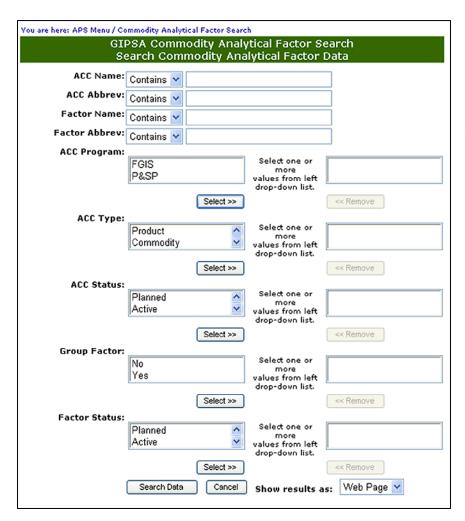


Figure 47 – Search Commodity Analytical Factor Data

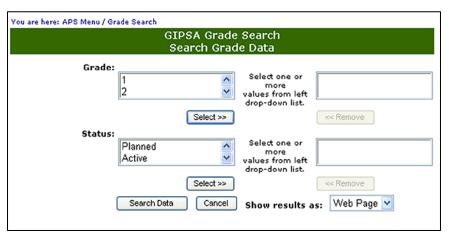


Figure 48 – Search Grade Data

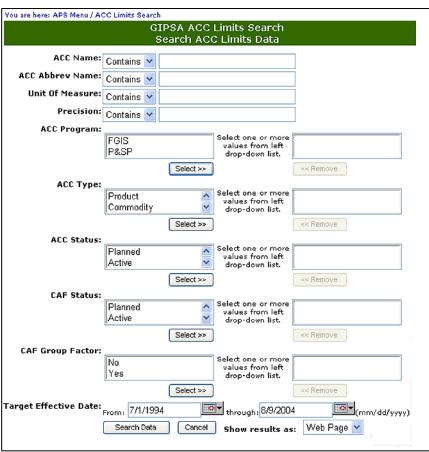


Figure 49 – Search ACC Limits Data

D. eAuthorization and APS

D. 1 — Configuring User Access to APS

GIPSA's eAuthorization System (GAS) maintains access permissions and authentication data for each GAM user. Only eAuthorization administrators can configure these settings.

All users must have a *User Role* assigned through eAuthorization in order to use APS. The role tells the system whether a user can enter and run functions within an application.

At this time there are two pre-defined roles for APS. These values will appear in the dropdown menu for *Role* on the **Add New User Role** screen (Fig. 50):

"APS Read Only" is for read-only users.

"APS Administrator" is for users with permission to add, delete, or maintain records, factors, grades, and limits.

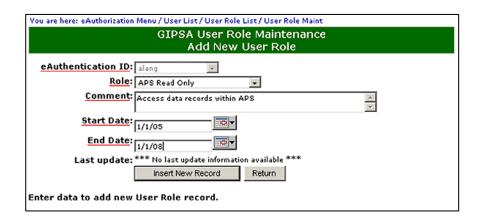


Figure 50 – eAuthorization: Add New User Role

III. Appendix

A. Glossary

ACC (Agricultural Commodity Class) — the class of APS data which includes the product, commodity, class, and subclass records for regulated agricultural products.

ACC Type — the field which designates whether an ACC record is a top level (Product), second level (Commodity), third level (Class), or fourth level (Subclass) product.

Analytical Factor — a quality by which an agricultural product is assessed or measured (such as by color, weight, or seed count). Analytical Factors are associated with ACCs, and are used to define CAFs and Grades.

Class — See ACC Type.

Commodity — See ACC Type.

Commodity Analytical Factor (CAF) — a record which combines ACCs and their valid analytical factors with the units and methods of measurement for judging the product by that factor. CAFs can be used to define Factor Grade Limits.

eAuthentication Login ID — an alphanumeric string assigned to a user's USDA credentials, used as a unique identifier throughout eAuthorization and GAM applications.

eAuthorization (GAS) — the GAM authorization system that integrates login management for all GAM applications, including APS. Abbreviated GAS.

eAuthorization (GAS) Role - a set of permissions that governs access to an application, actions within an application, and/or data within an application.

Factor Grade Limit — a set of specific parameters (such as weight, ratio, color, or percent) that define the acceptable degree of damage or defect within a USDA Grade assignment.

Grade (or USDA Grade) — the objective standard used to judge a foodstuff's quality.

Group — multiple CAF records gathered into a single unit, or Group CAF.

ID (GAS) — the specific value (such as 'F') that ties to a user's eAuthorization Identity Type.

Identity or *User Identity(GAS)* — an application-level identification for a user, made up of the Identity Type and the ID, which governs access to specific data sets within APS.

Identity Type (GAS) — the text descriptive value of the Identity (above) within eAuthorization.

Limit — see Factor Grade Limit.

Product — When used to define an ACC Type, the top level of the ACC product hierarchy.

 $Role\ (GAS)$ — a set of permissions that governs access to an application, actions within an application, and/or data within an application.

Subclass — See ACC Type.

B. Commonly Used Acronyms

APS - GIPSA Agricultural Product Standards application

FGIS — Federal Grain Inspection Service

GAS - GIPSA eAuthorization System application

IDW - GIPSA Inspection Data Warehouse application

ITS — GIPSA Issue Tracking System application

P&SP Packers & Stockyards Program

RER - GIPSA Regulated Entities and Registration application